1989/90

BUSINESS PLAN

Province of British Columbia
Ministry of Energy, Mines
and Petroleum Resources

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Ministry Mandate and Priorities

MISSION

Acting on behalf of present and future British Columbians, the Ministry is custodian of the province's energy and mineral resources. It ensures that they are developed and used in a safe, efficient and environmentally sound manner for the economic benefit of the province.

CORE VALUES

In pursuit of its mission, the Ministry adheres to the following core values:

- **Efficiency and Effectiveness** - We strive to ensure that the taxpayers' money is used carefully and that the public gains the maximum benefit from our programs and activities.

- **Excellence in Service** - We strive to achieve the best possible performance in the delivery of our services to the general public, to industry, to elected officials and to Cabinet.

- **Positive Communications** - We will deal openly with our clients in a courteous, responsive and helpful manner.

- **Best Employer: Staff Participation and Commitment** - Our achievements depend on our people. We are committed to the continuing development of our knowledge, expertise and team-work to better serve the public and our clients.

The Economy and the Environment: Commitment to sustainable development and the integration of economic and environmental values in decision-making is a global priority.

The Ministry will contribute to the goal of sustainable development through programs and policies which improve our economy, expand British Columbia's resource base, encourage conservation and reduce waste.

KEY INITIATIVES 1989/90 FISCAL YEAR

Vancouver Island Natural Gas Pipeline

Ensure successful and timely completion of pipeline, distribution systems and equipment conversion to achieve the benefits of cleaner air, reduced oil-traffic hazard, greater energy choice and new economic opportunities.

Energy Efficiency and Renewables

Encourage introduction of more efficient technologies and promote increased use of renewable energy sources and provide direction to B.C. Hydro to encourage the purchase of power, energy from waste and other environmentally beneficial projects.

Deputy Minister's Forum on the Economy and Environment

A Deputy Minister's Forum will review the Ministry's policies and procedures for land use, mine reclamation and project approvals. The Forum will also provide a focal point for staff suggestions on new initiatives to improve the economy, expand the resource base, encourage conservation and reduce waste.

Energy Project Review Process

Adapt existing integrated review procedures to handle efficiently the private power project proposals being made in response to B.C. Hydro and Powerex's calls for proposals.

Energy Removal Certificate Process

Review information requirements, administrative procedures and criteria for assessment in order to improve decision- making and ensure long-term security of supply in the light of emerging market trends.

Mineral Potential Evaluations

The Geological Survey Branch of British Columbia will carry out an expanded program of sub-surface resource assessments to facilitate informed decisions on land use in provincial recreation areas and areas proposed for placer or sand and gravel extraction.

Infrastructure Planning

Engineering and environmental studies will be initiated in strategic corridors to assist planning for potential mineral developments and to avoid impacts on sensitive areas.

Acid Mine Drainage

The Mt. Washington reclamation project will be completed. Increased funding will be provided for research into acid mine drainage prediction, prevention and treatment.

Reclamation

The Ministry will facilitate the establishment of company-financed reclamation funds to augment current bonding requirements and provide stronger incentives for innovative, cost-effective reclamation programs meeting provincial objectives.

Recreation Areas

Together with the Ministry of Parks, the Ministry will implement new regulations governing mineral evaluations and private-sector exploration in designated recreation areas.

Economic Growth and Regional Development: The Province is committed to building a strong, resilient economy which increases opportunities for British Columbians in all its regions.

Extending Our Frontiers: The energy and mineral sectors are mainstays of the provincial economy. The Ministry's initiatives extend our frontiers by encouraging growth and development of untapped resources and the application of new technology and information.

KEY INITIATIVES 1989/90 FISCAL YEAR

Electricity Strategy

Implement Cabinet directions for electricity policy; publish information paper; implement policy direction as required.

The domestic strategy is to encourage conservation, energy efficiency and private-sector generation to assist B.C. Hydro in meeting domestic load requirements. The export strategy is to pursue a diversified and aggressive approach to export markets which includes opportunities for the private sector. These activities include a strategy for assessing the disposition of Columbia River downstream benefits, which revert back to the province in 1998.

Review of Oil Royalties and Incentives

The effects of past policies and technical requirements will be evaluated in order to identify simplifications to oil royalty programs while maintaining appropriate incentives for exploration and development, the principle of revenue neutrality, and effective audit and revenue protection measures.

Continue Deregulation of Natural Gas Industry

Restructure the B.C. Petroleum Corporation to separate its administrative and marketing functions in order to privatize the marketing function.

Policy for Electricity and Gas Utility Extensions

Ensure comparable gas and electric service in all regions, in the context of overall broader strategies.

Underground Storage

Establish policies that support development of natural gas storage reservoirs near market areas thereby enhancing pipeline efficiency and security of supply.

Geothermal Resource Development

Encourage increased utilitization of the province's geothermal resources.

Attracting Trade and Investment

To attract investment and encourage new mineral discoveries, the Ministry will actively market information on the mineral geology of the province. The Ministry will work in concert with the Ministry of International Business and Immigration and the new Export Development Corporation on emerging trade and investment opportunities stemming from the Canada-US Free Trade Agreement and in the Pacific Rim.

Coal and Mineral Tax Acts

To develop and implement legislation for a new coal and mineral tax system, approved earlier this year by Cabinet. The new system will provide a sounder tax base that enhances investment incentives while ensuring a fair return for Crown resources.

Resource Roads

A new policy framework for resource roads including financial assistance programs will be developed in conjunction with the Ministry of Regional Development.

Economic Diversification

Depleting base metal reserves will begin to affect some communities over the next decade. Ministry programs will be aimed at encouraging new exploration and, in co-operation with Ministers of State, other diversification initiatives.

Services to Industry and the Public: The Ministry's diverse services include public and worker safety, licensing and approvals, titles management, revenue collection, resource assessments, and public information.

Our commitments to excellence, efficiency and courtesy are reflected in our planning and day-to-day service.

KEY INITIATIVES 1989/90 FISCAL YEAR

Oil and Gas Royalty Project

The new Oil and Gas Royalty system will be implemented throughout the province.

Communications and Public Relations Programs

Enhance communications programs and public relations activities to serve industry, educational institutions, media and the public.

Energy Supply/Requirements Forecast

Publication of the long-term Energy Supply/Requirements Forecasts of the province.

Strengthen District Offices

Enhance the position and resources of the district offices to more effectively deliver the Ministry's services to industry and the public.

Mineral Tenure Administration

A computerized claim records and mapping system is being planned to improve the timeliness and accuracy of tenure information and provide improved access to secure tenures throughout the province.

Computerize Petroleum Titles Systems

Enhance the petroleum titles computer system to improve client services by increasing the capability of reporting available rights to industry.

Review Petroleum and Natural Gas Act and Regulations

Review to ensure that regulation of the petroleum industry recognizes changes in technology and the demands for protection of workers and the environment.

Mine Development Review Process

Project review procedures will be re-examined and new inter-agency protocols established to maintain the strengths of the "one window" regulatory system. This will give increased opportunity for public input and mean less red tape for industry and government agencies. Regional decision-making will be encouraged.

Mines Act

A new Mines Act and B.C. Mining Code will strengthen and modernize standards for health, safety and environmental protection. Clear, up-to-date requirements will facilitate industry compliance and improve public and worker protection.

Stability and Change: The Ministry has recently seen many changes: reorganization, new staff, introduction of new regulations and procedures, technological change, and office moves.

Initiatives through the coming fiscal year aim to consolidate our organization, refine our procedures and administrative mechanisms, and bring greater stability to our operations in headquarters and the regions.

Our Staff: Our ability to deliver our mandate depends on the quality and commitment of our people and upon the resources at their disposal. The Ministry will strive to offer staff the best possible opportunities for rewarding work in a positive working environment.

KEY INITIATIVES 1989/90 FISCAL YEAR

Ministry Accommodation Plans

Develop short- and long-term accommodation plans for Ministry office locations.

Information Systems Plan

Implement integrated Systems Plan and Ministry-wide electronic mail network.

Personnel Development

Develop programs for personnel training and recognition and methods to include staff in key decisions affecting the Ministry. Conduct follow-up staff surveys and improve communication within the Ministry.

Develop new Ministry Womens' Program

Update the existing action plan for Women's Programs to include specific goals, an accompanying budget, and time frame for implementation of the plan's initiatives.

LEGISLATION

Legislation administered by the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources includes the following:

Coal Act
Fort Nelson Indian Reserve Minerals Revenue Sharing Act
Gas Utility Act
Geothermal Resources Act
Hydro and Power Authority Act
Hydro and Power Authority Privatization Act
Hydro Power Measures Act
Indian Reserve Mineral Resource Act
Industrial Electricity Rate Discount Act
Mineral Land Tax Act
Mineral Prospectors Act
Mineral Resource Tax Act
Mines Act
Mining Right of Way Act
Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Act
Natural Gas Price Act
Petroleum and Natural Gas Act
Petroleum and Natural Gas/Vancouver Island Railway Lands Act
Petroleum Corporation Act
Pipeline Act
Power Act
Sechelt Indian Government District Enabling Act
Utilities Commission Act

Ministry Telephone Directory

MINISTER'S OFFICE

Victoria	387-5295
Vancouver	660-3426

DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE

	387-5137
Executive Co-ordinator	387-5137
Communications Branch	387-5178

ENERGY RESOURCES DIVISION

Assistant Deputy Minister	387-1916
File Room	386-2743
Energy Policy Branch	387-5231
Project Analysis Section	387-5231
Offshore Co-ordinator	356-2788
Electricity Section	387-5231
Natural Gas Section	387-5231
Forecasts & Special Projects Branch	387-5231
Petroleum Engineering & Operations Branch	387-5993
Reservoir Engineering	387-5993
Development Engineering	387-5993
Petroleum Geology Branch	387-5993
Petroleum Titles Branch	387-1908
Drafting	387-1908

MINERAL RESOURCES DIVISION

Assistant Deputy Minister	387-6242
Mineral Policy Branch	387-3787
Mineral Titles Branch	387-4417
Engineering & Inspection Branch	387-3781
Geological Survey Branch	356-2818
Chief Geologist	387-0688
Resource Data & Analysis	356-2818
Mineral Deposits & Regional Mapping	356-2818
District Geology & Coal Resources	387-5975
Lapidary	387-6758
Analytical Sciences	387-6249

REVENUE AND OPERATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION

Executive Director	387-5135
Resource Revenue Branch	387-6991
Financial Services Branch	387-5185
Administration Branch	387-1368
Mail Room	387-6248
Library	387-6407
Data Services Branch	387-1267
Personnel Services Branch	387-3775
Mineral Audit Section	387-6999
Royalty Management Project	356-2141

DISTRICT OFFICES

Fernie	423-6884
Fort St. John (Charlie Lake)	787-3450
Mediation & Arbitration Board	787-3403
Kamloops	828-4566
Nanaimo	755-2486
Nelson	354-6125
Prince George	565-6125
Quesnel	992-4222
Smithers	847-7383
Vancouver	
Mineral Titles Branch	660-2672
Engineering & Inspection Branch	660-9372
Geological Survey Branch	660-2812

For further information, please write:

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